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DIRECTOR'S OFFICE
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600

In Re Application: FUTAKATA, TOSHIYUKI, et al Appl No. **09/446,888** Filed: December 30, 1999 Attorney Docket No. **6342-0039-2**

WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE UNDER 37 CFR 1.313(b)

The above-identified application is withdrawn from issue after payment of the issue fee due to unpatentability of one or more claims. See 37 CFR 1.313(b).

The above-identified application is hereby withdrawn from issue.

The issue fee is refundable upon written request. If, however, the application is again found allowable, the issue fee can be applied toward payment of the issue fee in the amount identified on the new Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due upon written request. This request and any balance due must be received on or before the due date noted in the new Notice of Allowance in order to prevent abandonment of the application.

Telephone inquiries should be directed to Mohammed Ghayour, at 571-272-3021.

The above-identified application is being forwarded to the examiner for prompt appropriate action, including notifying applicant of the new status of this application.

Andrew Faile

Director Technology Center 2600

Communications

Andres Frank

CC: Office of Publications

Patent Clerk, South Tower, Room 08C15

Supervisory Correspondence Clerk, South Tower, Room 08C15